

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 ONY-00 /033 W
-----241951 031572 /45R
R 241918Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0953

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 03168

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, US, UK
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER
CALLAGHAN, MARCH 10 - 11
REFERENCE: STATE 036387

1. FOLLOWING ARE DRAFT ARRIVAL STATEMENT AND TWO
PROPOSED TOASTS:

ARRIVAL STATEMENT. BEGIN TEXT. IT GIVES ME
GREAT PLEASURE, MR. PRIME MINISTER, TO WELCOME YOU
TO WASHINGTON. I THINK IT IS APPROPRIATE AND
SIGNIFICANT THAT THE FIRST OFFICIAL VISITOR
FROM OVERSEAS SINCE THE INAUGURATION IS YOU.
MR. PRIME MINISTER, REPRESENTING THE COUNTRY WITH
WHICH AMERICA HAS THE CLOSEST AND WARMEST OF ASSOCIATIONS.

CERTAINLY, WE WANT TO KEEP THEM THAT WAY--AND THAT
IS WHY I ASKED THE VICE PRESIDENT JUST
AFTER I TOOK OFFICE LAST MONTH TO VISIT LONDON SO THAT
HE COULD MEET WITH YOU.

NOW, IT IS OUR PRIVILEGE TO GREET YOU HERE
AND BE ABLE TO CONSULT WITH YOU PERSONALLY, TO SHARE
THOUGHTS ON HOW WE CAN MOVE AHEAD TOGETHER.

I ASSURE YOU, MR. PRIME MINISTER, THAT MY
ADMINISTRATION HAS EVERY INTENTION OF KEEPING UP THE
TRADITION OF WORKING CLOSELY WITH BRITAIN. YOUR WISDOM
AND KNOWLEDGE AND STRENGTH ARE ESSENTIAL IF WE, THE
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COUNTRIES OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE ARE TO MANAGE AND
SOLVE THE CHALLENGES FACING US.

FOR MANY DECADES, OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE HAD A
RELATIONSHIP THAT IS REMARKABLE IN THE CONDUCT OF
AFFAIRS BETWEEN NATIONS. WE SHARE A COMMON ANCESTRY.
LANGUAGE AND DEDICATION TO LIBERTY, BUT BEYOND THAT
WE HAVE A SHARED PURPOSE IN PERPETUATING THE VALUES

BY WHICH WE LIVE.

IN THIS DAY AND AGE, THERE IS NO ISOLATED PROSPERITY OR ISOLATED SECURITY. THESE HAVE BEEN LESSONS LEARNED THE HARD WAY, LEARNED IN TWO TERRIBLE WARS WITHIN LIVING MEMORY--BUT THEY ARE LESSONS THAT HAVE BEEN LEARNED.

AND THAT IS WHY I PARTICULARLY WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY, MR. PRIME MINISTER, TO CONSULT WITH YOU SO THAT WE MAY DISCUSS THE PROBLEMS TOGETHER, THE PROBLEMS FACING US AT HOME, THOSE FACING YOU IN BRITAIN, AND THOSE ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE THAT AFFECT SECURITY AND PROGRESS.

YOU ARE NO STRANGER TO WASHINGTON, MR. PRIME MINISTER, BUT IT IS MY PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU NOW AS THE LEADER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, A COUNTRY THAT IS CLOSE TO THE HEARTS OF ALL AMERICANS. I AM VERY PLEASED TO MEET WITH YOU, AND WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO MAKE YOUR VISIT HERE SATISFYING AND PRODUCTIVE. END TEXT.

2. WHITE HOUSE TOAST. BEGIN TEXT. IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE, MR. PRIME MINISTER, TO HAVE YOU AND MRS. CALLAGHAN AS OUR GUESTS.

WE HAVE HAD MANY DISTINGUISHED VISITORS FROM BRITAIN IN THIS HOUSE BEFORE, OF COURSE, STARTING IN 1812. BUT NONE, IF MY KNOWLEDGE OF HISTORY IS CORRECT, WITH SO FINE A SINGING VOICE. WHEN THE VICE PRESIDENT HEARD YOU HAD ACCEPTED MY INVITATION, HE ASKED ME WHETHER IT WAS ALL RIGHT IF HE COULD TAKE AN AFTERNOON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OFF FOR VOICE LESSONS. HE FELT HE HADN'T UPHELD THE HONOR OF AMERICA AS WELL AS HE MIGHT HAVE WHEN HE WAS YOUR GUEST IN LONDON.

I REALLY DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD HELP, THOUGH; FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, NO AMERICAN COULD EVER COMPETE WITH SOMEONE WHO REPRESENTS CARDIFF SOUTH IN PARLIAMENT. IN ANY EVENT, FRITZ HASN'T HAD TIME TO STUDY HIS BRIEFING PAPERS BECAUSE HE'S BEEN BUSY PRACTICING "BRINGING IN THE SHEAVES." (CALLAGHAN IS A BAPTIST.)

WHEN I WAS CAMPAIGNING FOR THE PRESIDENCY, I COMMENTED--THAT OF ALL THE COUNTRIES OVERSEAS--I FELT CLOSEST TO GREAT BRITAIN. NO ONE TOOK ISSUE WITH THAT STATEMENT; IT WAS ONE OF THE FEW I MADE THAT MY OPPONENTS DIDN'T TAKE EXCEPTION TO.

WE ALWAYS HAVE LOOKED TO GREAT BRITAIN, MR. PRIME MINISTER, AS A STANDARD FOR DECENT CONDUCT FOR COMMON

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SENSE AND JUSTICE IN WORLD AFFAIRS. AND WE HAVE NOT BEEN
ALONE IN THIS REGARD.

OURS IS A RELATIONSHIP OF LONG STANDING, THE
LONGEST OF ANY THAT MY COUNTRY HAS HAD. WE MAY HAVE
SEPARATED TWO CENTURIES AGO, BUT WE DID NOT SEPARATE
OURSELVES FROM THE VALUES WE SHARE AND CHERISH WITH YOU.

AFTER ALL, THE BATTLES WE HAD TWO HUNDRED YEARS
AGO WERE OVER THE RIGHTS OF ENGLISHMEN. PERHAPS WE
FELT STRONGER ABOUT THEM THAN YOU HAD ANTICIPATED, BUT
WE ARE AS ONE IN OUR THINKING TODAY, IN OUR OUTLOOK
ON THE KIND OF WORLD WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE EMERGE, A
WORLD AT PEACE, WHERE ALL ARE PROSPERING AND WHERE
HUMAN RIGHTS ARE THE RULE, NOT THE EXCEPTION.

THE TALKS WE HAVE HAD HERE, MR. PRIME MINISTER,
HAVE RANGED OVER A GREAT NUMBER OF SUBJECTS. AND I
HAVE FOUND THEM VERY VALUABLE. THE UNITED STATES
HAS ALWAYS TREASURED OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED
KINGDOM; WE HAVE SOUGHT YOUR ADVICE AND WISDOM ON
MANY MATTERS, AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, IT IS WITH PLEASURE THAT WE
WELCOME YOU AND MRS. CALLAGHAN AND YOUR PARTY TO
WASHINGTON. AND IT IS WITH RESPECT AND ADMIRATION THAT
I RAISE MY GLASS IN TOAST TO HER MAJESTY, THE QUEEN,
ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER REIGN. TO THE QUEEN.

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END TEXT.

3. TOAST AT THE BRITISH EMBASSY. BEGIN TEXT. I
THANK YOU, MR. PRIME MINISTER, FOR YOUR GOOD WISHES.
EVEN THOUGH THE ELECTION IS OVER, I CAN STILL USE EVERY
BIT OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND ASSISTANCE I CAN GET.

I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS EVENING WITH
GREAT PLEASURE. I TOOK OUT SOME INSURANCE, THOUGH,
AND ASKED ROSALYNN TO PACK A FEW SANDWICHES IN CASE
YOU DECIDED TO SERVE AN AUSTERITY DINNER OF BANGERS AND
MASH (SAUSAGES AND MASHED POTATOES).

THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN UNCOMFORTABLE FOR SOME
GUESTS, BUT NOT, I WOULD SAY, FOR THE PRIME MINISTER OR
ME. WE BOTH SERVED IN OUR RESPECTIVE NAVIES, YOU KNOW,
AND I DO NOT THINK IT WAS THE QUANTITY OF FOUR-STAR
DINING HALLS THAT DREW US INTO THAT BRANCH OF THE
MILITARY SERVICE.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, IT HAS BEEN A GREAT
PLEASURE HAVING YOU IN WASHINGTON AS OUR GUEST. IF I
REQUIRED ANY CONFIRMATION OF THE CLOSE WORKING
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES, I HAVE RECEIVED IT
THE LAST TWO DAYS.

THE CHALLENGES FACING OUR RELATIONSHIP MAY
CHANGE AS THEY WILL WITH CHANGING CONDITIONS, BUT
THE BASIC INTERESTS AND VALUES WILL REMAIN.

SOMEONE NOT LONG PUT IN FRONT OF ME A STATEMENT
OF BRITISH INTERESTS, DRAWN UP BY A DISTINGUISHED
DIPLOMAT, LORD TREVELYAN. I BROUGHT IT ALONG THIS
EVENING BECAUSE IT SEEMS PARTICULARLY APT. LORD
TREVELYAN SAID: "IT IS A BRITISH INTEREST THAT THE
PEACE SHOULD BE SECURE, THAT THE STRONG SHOULD NOT
GOBBLE UP THE WEAK, THAT INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES, EVEN
IF THEY CANNOT BE SETTLED, SHOULD AT LEAST BE TALKED
OVER UNTIL THE DANGER POINT HAS PASSED, THAT ATOMIC
WEAPONS NOT GET INTO THE HANDS OF ANY COUNTRY
WHICH MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO USE THEM AND THE NUCLEAR
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BALANCE BE MAINTAINED, THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE
CAPITALIST AND COMMUNIST COUNTRIES SHOULD BECOME
GRADUALLY EASIER, THAT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
BE ABLE TO RAISE THE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE POOR,
THAT GOVERNMENTS SHOULD KEEP THEIR WORD AND OBSERVE
THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW."

THAT EASILY MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE AGENDA FOR OUR
DISCUSSIONS THESE PAST TWO DAYS. WE HAVE FOUND
OURSELVES IN AGREEMENT ON THE GREAT ISSUES, AS BEFITS
TWO NATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN IN COMMON CAUSE FOR SO
MANY YEARS. AND WE ARE IN ACCORD, TOO, ON THE CENTRAL
ISSUES OF DOMESTIC LIFE--THAT FOR OUR NATIONS TO BE

ABLE TO INFLUENCE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, WE MUST
HAVE DOMESTIC ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL VIABILITY.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, I THANK YOU FOR COMING TO
WASHINGTON, I THANK YOU FOR OUR MOST CONSTRUCTIVE
AND HELPFUL CONVERSATIONS. I HAVE FOUND THEM OF GREAT
VALUE AND INSPIRATION. END TEXT.
ARMSTRONG

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